

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of the Claims:**

Claims 1-20 (cancelled)

Claim 21 (new): A pond filter comprising:

a housing having a bottom which can be supported on a foundation, and a wall provided with a water inlet, a channel outlet, and a pond outlet, the housing having a transverse X axis and a longitudinal Y axis defining an XY plane which is parallel to the foundation when the bottom is supported on the foundation;

a flow path between the water inlet and the pond outlet;

a prefiltration unit installed in the flow path and comprising a flat filter screen which is parallel to the X axis and at an acute angle to the Y axis, thereby defining an upper end and a lower end of the screen; and

a filtering device in the flow path downstream of the prefiltration unit.

Claim 22 (new): The pond filter of claim 21 further comprising a flow diverting device arranged in the flow path between the water inlet and the flat filter screen.

Claim 23 (new): The pond filter of claim 22 wherein the flow diverting device comprises a flow chamber arranged parallel to the X axis, the flow chamber having at least one outlet opening proximate to the upper end of the filter screen, whereby water flows along the screen toward the lower end and through the screen.

Claim 24 (new): The pond filter of claim 23 wherein the flow diverting device comprises a plurality of outlets proximate to the upper end of the screen, and a plurality of flow diverting elements arranged adjacent to respective said outlets.

Claim 25 (new): The pond filter of claim 24 wherein the filter screen comprises a plurality of screen parts, each said screen part being adjacent to a respective said outlet.

Claim 26 (new): The pond filter of claim 25 wherein each said diverting element can divert water to one or more of said screen parts.

Claim 27 (new): The pond filter of claim 21 wherein the filter screen comprises a plurality of screen parts extending along the X axis.

Claim 28 (new): The pond filter of claim 21 further comprising a flushing channel adjacent to the lower end of the filter screen, the flushing channel being connected to the channel outlet.

Claim 29 (new): The pond filter of claim 28 wherein the flushing channel has an inlet opening which can be closed for filtration and opened for flushing.

Claim 30 (new): The pond filter of claim 29 further comprising a flow barrier formed parallel to the X axis between the filter screen and the inlet opening, the flow barrier being arranged to be overcome by intake water during flushing.

Claim 31 (new): The pond filter of claim of claim 29 wherein the inlet opening has a cross section shaped like a funnel parallel to the Y axis.

Claim 32 (new): The pond filter of claim 21 wherein the prefiltration unit is pivotable with respect to the housing.

Claim 33 (new): The pond filter of claim 32 wherein the prefiltration unit is pivotable about a pivot axis which is parallel to the X axis.

Claim 34 (new): The pond filter of claim 33 further comprising a flushing channel adjacent to the lower end of the filter screen, the flushing channel being connected to the channel outlet, the pivot axis being located above the flushing channel.

Claim 35 (new): The pond filter of claim 28 wherein the flushing channel can be disconnected from the channel outlet so that the filtering device can be flushed along a flow path from the filtering device to the channel outlet.

Claim 36 (new): The pond filter of claim 21 wherein the filtering device comprises a plurality of filter cartridges which are compressible for cleaning purposes.

Claim 37 (new): The pond filter of claim 21 wherein the filtering device comprises a cartridge containing at least one filtering aid selected from the group consisting of activated carbon, zeolite, lava rock, and a biocore.